

# School Closings, Delayed Openings, And Early Dismissal Procedures For Severe Weather And Other Emergencies



**Floral Park-Bellerose Public Schools**  
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2015/2016 school year, 1/21/16.

## **Pupil Safety is our Prime Concern**

Pupil Safety is always the prime concern. For this reason, snowstorms and other adverse weather conditions or emergency situations may necessitate closing schools for the day, or opening on a delayed schedule. Any decision to close or postpone school will be based solely on concerns for the safety of children.

**PLEASE NOTE A CHANGE IN DELAYED OPENING. WE WILL USE A TWO (2) – HOUR DELAY THIS SCHOOL YEAR.**

## CLOSING SCHOOLS FOR THE DAY

### Who decides to close the schools or open them late?

The Superintendent of Schools makes the decision based on: (1) road conditions; (2) area weather reports and local weather conditions; (3) checks of road conditions throughout the area by school district personnel; and, (4) the recommendation of the Transportation Department.

### When is the decision made to close/delay the schools and how is it conveyed to the public?

The decision must be made before 6:00 a.m. Information on school closing (or delayed opening) will be provided in the following manner:

Announcements will be made on local radio stations and on Cablevision news channel 12, Long Island.

Notification will be posted on the school district website([www.floralpark.k12.ny.us](http://www.floralpark.k12.ny.us)); via ConnectEd message system; and TextCaster.

### How will pupils attending the non-public schools be affected if the Floral Park-Bellerose Public Schools declare a school closing?

All school bus transportation within the district area is cancelled. Resident students attending private, parochial, BOCES, and other special schools outside the area will not have bus transportation provided.

## DELAYED OPENINGS

### What are the advantages of a 2 - hour delayed opening?

A delayed opening enables the buses to travel during a less congested period. It allows time for plows to clear streets, residents to move cars, and sidewalks to be shoveled. It permits the normal traffic flow and/or warmer temperatures to melt or clear snow accumulations on roads. It promotes safer travel for pupils and school personnel. It avoids closing schools unnecessarily.

### How will children be notified of a delayed opening?

You will be notified via our ConnectEd message system and TextCaster by 6:00 a.m. Notification will also appear on the School District website ([www.floralpark.k12.ny.us](http://www.floralpark.k12.ny.us)).

## DELAYED SCHOOL OPENING SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS

### Floral Park-Bellerose School

<u>Grades</u>	<u>2 - hour delay</u>
Kindergarten	10:45 a.m.
1 - 2	10:45 a.m.
3 - 6	11:00 a.m.

### John Lewis Childs School

<u>Grades</u>	<u>2 – hour delay</u>
Kindergarten	10:15 a.m.
1 - 6	10:15 a.m.

A delayed school opening means the a.m. bus schedule will also be delayed 2 hours. For example, if your child's bus is normally scheduled to arrive at 8:15 a.m., a **2- hour delay** will change it to 10:15 a.m.

**Regular dismissal time for all grades.**

**All Pre-School classes will be cancelled when there is a delayed opening.**

A delayed opening is subject to change if the weather and/or road conditions remain hazardous. The Superintendent of Schools retains the option to issue a subsequent order directing a school closing. This option will be exercised only when the potential for a hazardous situation exists. If a decision to close schools is not made by 7:30 a.m., the delayed opening will remain in effect.

**How will students attending the non-public schools or special transportation be affected by a delayed opening?**

Unless the receiving school is closed, we will transport students attending non-public schools or special transportation **2 hours later**.

## EARLY DISMISSAL

### Will there be an early dismissal?

Elementary school children will not be released before the regular dismissal time due to weather.